

Manuscript 111.

Graham J. D.

Frontera, on the Rio Grande  
6 miles above El Paso del Norte.  
July 4<sup>th</sup> 1857.

Professor Asa Gray, &c. &c. &c.  
Cambridge, Massachusetts.

My Dear Sir.

I have forwarded to you by Captain S. G. French, Quarter Master U.S. Army, who will leave here immediately for San Antonio, 4 packages done up in strong paper, marked as follows: vizt. "Colonel J. D. Graham, Care of Doct. Asa Gray Cambridge, Mass. <sup>579</sup>" These packages contain Botanical Specimens collected, on the journey we have just made from San Antonio to this place, by my assistant Mr. Charles Wright, whom you recommended to me at Cambridge in January 1849. My object in sending them to you is that you may, as I request you will, examine them and take them up for describing as the Botanist of my party. In case this duty should be acceptable to you, you will please consider the specimens as belonging to the Scientific Corps of the Boundary Commission, and I request that you will address your report upon them to me, to constitute a part of our

proceedings, and to be published with them.  
Please address me in answer, at "El  
Paso del Norte, via <sup>Independence</sup> ~~Fort Leavenworth~~  
Missouri, and Santa Fe."

There is a memorandum with each specimen,  
with a number, and a note as to locality, &c.

I have requested Capt. French to have  
these packages shipped from Indianola  
or New Orleans, to New York or Boston,  
according to his convenience, and to forward  
to you a bill of lading, and a note of  
advise thereof in order that you may  
know where to claim them. Any expense  
of freight &c. which you may find it  
necessary to pay, will be allowed from  
the Boundary Commission. Should they  
be delayed in reaching you, please  
address a note to Captain J. G. French  
A. S. M., U. S. Army, Washington City.

We shall be able I hope to present  
to you, should you desire them, duplicates  
of most of the plants. One complete set

will be required by the Government,  
at least, to be deposited in some  
institution hereafter to be designated.

Please have all letters sent to us  
here post paid & charge the same  
in a memorandum and I will have the  
account duly attended to, together with other  
matters. You will please excuse my  
mentioning this item, but I do it because the  
mail arrangements extend only as far  
as Santa Fe on one route, and as far  
as San Antonio on the other. No letters  
that are not pre-paid are ever given  
to the express-men who go beyond those points.

I arrived at El Paso del Norte with  
my party, and the instruments to survey  
this line, on the 24<sup>th</sup> ultimo: in 37  
days total time from San Antonio, and  
29 actual marching days. My party  
arrived in good health, <sup>without any accident whatsoever</sup> and the  
instruments all safe, after a journey

of 800 miles over land from Indianola.

Hoping to hear soon from you, I

remain, dear friend, very respectfully

Your obt. servt.

J. D. Graham

Lieut. Colonel

Head of the Scientific Corps

U.S. Army

